

# DESERT AIRMAN

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Aug. 4, 2006



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Photo by Airman 1st Class Veronica Pierce

### Exercise Angel Thunder

Pararescuemen from both the 48th Rescue Squadron, Davis-Monthan, and 58th RQS, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., prepare to transport a simulated patient in an HH-60 Pave Hawk during the mass casualty phase of the Angel Thunder exercise at the Huachuca Mountains, Ariz., July 24 through 28. (See Pages 8 and 9 for more information about the exercise.)



Photo by Senior Airman Christina Ponte

Airman 1st Class Josh Morgan, 355th Component Maintenance Squadron, jumps off the diving board during the Underage Drinking Task Force pool party at Davis-Monthan Saturday.

## Airmen 'flip' for UDTF pool party

By Master Sgt. Michael Starkey  
355th Mission Support Squadron

The Mission Support Group hosted a free Underage Drinking Task Force (UDTF) Pool Party Saturday.

More than 100 Airmen, family members and friends swam in the cool water to beat the hot weather during the event.

The 355th Mission Support Group pulled together and came up with the idea.

"It was a great way for underage Airmen to have fun without the need for alcohol," said Master Sgt. Greg Smith, 355th Services Squadron first sergeant.

The event included music, food, drinks and a pool full of Airmen on inner tubes.

Tucson Police Department personnel also edu-

cated the crowd on the effects of driving under the influence of alcohol. Party goers also experienced what the effects of being under the influence would feel like by trying out drunk-driving goggles.

"These events are becoming more popular each month," said 1st Lt. Cynthia Darnell, 355th Contracting Squadron and UDTF representative. "This was especially evident by the many Airmen that attended the pool party.

Making responsible choices and having fun can definitely go hand in hand," she said.

Underage Drinking Task Force events are hosted by a different group each month.

## Weekend Weather

Today Saturday Sunday



88  
74



89  
75



91  
75

Information courtesy of the 355th Operations Support Squadron.

## Sorties

Squadron	Goal to date	Flown	Annual
41st ECS	125.0	71.0	1,590.0
43rd ECS	100.0	71.0	1,398.0
55th RQS	185.0	195.0	2,880.0
79th RQS	160.0	136.0	1,845.0
162nd OSB	200.0	0.0	2,135.0
354th FS	850.5	463.0	8,942.0
357th FS	818.0	305.0	8,998.0
358th FS	913.4	368.0	9,134.0



# Getting ready to deploy?

*Resources available to help Airmen prepare*

By Maj. Justin F. Adams

755th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander

With today's culture of expeditionary deployments the chance of deploying is high.

Every Airman should expect to deploy whether it be in Air Expeditionary Force structure with your own unit, as an enabler to support additional taskings to other units or on extended Temporary Duty in support of our sister services.

These deployments often vary in length and location. Some are known well in advance, while others may be short notice.

Whatever the tasking, there are many things individuals and supervisors can do to ensure the success of the deployed mission, while taking care of military members and their families.

A good start for the military member is to ensure all of the required training needed for deployment is up to date and current throughout the deployment time frame.

Utilize your unit training manager, unit deployment manager, supervisors and other locally developed check lists to help you prepare for success.

Currency is critical in items such as Self-Aid Buddy Care, chemical warfare, weapon proficiency, medical clearance and recurring training required in your own specific Air Force Specialty Code this will help prepare you for success and enable you to 'hit the ground running' at your deployed location.

Equally important are the personal affairs of military members and their families.

By having a good plan to care for personal matters, stress and worry can be reduced, enabling the deployed member the ability to fully concentrate on the task at hand.

For married members, having powers of attorney set up for their spouses will enable them to take care of personal items while deployed.

Checking out the family car, working out finances and getting a list of available agencies and phone contacts that will be there for your family while you are deployed, are a few

more things that you can do to help get them ready.

If you are single, identifying what bills will be due while you are gone, identifying someone to stop by your residence to check up, water the plants, mow the yard and have your mail forwarded or picked up, etc. are also good things to plan in advance.

By establishing a family care plan, ensuring contact numbers are accurate and most importantly following through, items of concern can be addressed and dealt with before they become problems.

Commanders, first sergeants and supervisors play a very important role in making the deployment successful for the military member and their family.

Contact the deployed family members at least once every two weeks to see how things are going.

Let them know that you are available if situations arise that they need help with. Include them in squadron functions such as barbecues, going aways, squadron parties, etc.

Keep them informed on what agencies are available to provide support.

The Family Support Center, chaplain services and base legal office are a few that come to mind.

Most bases have a number of programs to help the families of deployed members.

Morale calls, easier/priority access to child care, a free oil change for the family car, activities and support network for spouses of the deployed member are just a few things that may be offered.

Ensure that you know what is available and that the information is passed along to the deployed member's family.

The tips identified above are by no means all encompassing, but a good start.

If the leadership of the organization and the military member start by making a good plan, follow through to ensure the plan is successful and have all the information needed to contact those with the ability to provide help if and when required, the deployment will be successful and the stress on the individual and their family will be minimized.

## Commander's Corner



Senior Airman Christina Ponte

Col. Michael Spencer, 355th Wing commander, talks with Airmen during the Underage Drinking Task Force pool party Sunday.

### Air conditioning at gym

**Concern:** I am retired and have used the gym for the past 30 years and recently the three-speed floor fan has disappeared from the life fitness room. Now that it's over 100 degrees, I can't imagine you can't afford to buy a fan or have another fan available for this room. The ceiling fans overhead do nothing but stir up the warm air. If any of the commanders go down there, they can see that there is no cooling in that room.

**Response:** Thank you for your concern about the temperature in the life fitness room.

We have placed a floor fan in the room for the time being that will help circulate the air better. We hope this will make the room more comfortable. Our current plans to renovate are in the final stages, which will include better air conditioning throughout all of the rooms and areas. If you have any further questions or concerns about the fitness center, please contact Mr. Cesar Vinueza, 355th Services Squadron fitness center director, at 228-0022.

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Photo by Airman 1st Class Alesia Goosic

An EC-130H aircraft taxis in to Davis-Monthan July 27, equipped with the new Block 35 state-of-the-art technology.

## Compass Call welcomes first Block 35 aircraft

By Shelly A. McGuire  
355th Wing Public Affairs

The 55th Electronic Combat Group welcomed its first Block 35 EC-130H aircraft to Davis-Monthan July 27 — another step in securing the Air Force's superiority in electronic warfare and premier advanced avionics.

The current EC-130H fleet is composed of the Block 20 and Block 30 baseline configuration and is

in the process of integrating the new state-of-the-art Block 35 upgrades, allowing Compass Call to more effectively perform its mission.

"We have transformed from being the world's best airborne communications jammer, to the world's best airborne communications 'and' radar jammer," said Col. Donald J. Bacon, 55th ECG commander. "We now have the expanded capability to hit more 21st century targets, which will significantly allow the U.S. Air Force not only to maintain its airspace su-



Photo by Shelly A. McGuire

The 55th Electronic Combat Group welcomed its first Block 35 EC-130H aircraft to Davis-Monthan during a formation at Whiskey Ramp July 27. Within the next five years, every EC-130H will have the Block 35 advanced technology installed.

**Aircraft, Page 4**

### 355th Change of Command

◆ **Change of Command:** Col. Michael Spencer will relinquish command of the 355th Wing to Col. Ronald Laughbaum Aug. 18 at 8:30 a.m. at the 55th Helicopter Maintenance Unit Hangar. Due to limited parking, individuals attending the change of command must park their vehicles at Heritage Park. Buses will run continuously from 7:30 to 8 a.m. Uniform of the day is BDUs.

For more information, call Capt. Teresa Quick at 228-2115.

◆ **Retirement Ceremony:** The Davis-Monthan community is invited to celebrate Col. Michael Spencer's career Aug. 18 at 10:30 a.m. at the Desert Oasis Enlisted Club.

For more information, call Capt. Angus Lam at 228-5369.

## News Notes

### Change of command

The 474th Operations Group change of command is at 9 a.m. Monday in the Mirage Officers' Club.

### Airman's Attic collection

The Tucson Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee will be collecting clothing, household items and more for the Airman's Attic during their next meeting Thursday.

For questions or to schedule a pick up, call Kelly Pinsky at 790-6100.

### Football, cheer organization

The Scorpions Football and Cheer Organization is seeking boys and girls ages 5 to 15.

For more information, call 256-6876 or stop by Palo Verde Park Monday through Friday from 6 to 8 pm.

### Health and Wellness expo

The Health and Wellness Center will host a mini-health expo Wednesday from 1 to 3 p.m. How to find the proper shoes, proper body alignment when sitting for long periods, lifting heavy materials and how to include core muscles in an exercise regime, will be addressed. Keynote speakers from Davis-Monthan's Physical Therapy Chiropractic Clinic and the fitness center will offer suggestions. Local businesses will demonstrate their foot-to-neck products and services. Participants will have a chance to sample available services during the event.

To reserve a spot, call 228-2294 by Monday.

### Hearts Apart event

There will be a Hearts Apart sponsored event for deployed families at the base pool Aug. 12. There will be music, games, prizes, food, swimming and more. Volunteers are needed for the event.

Call Tanya Hawks at 228-4024 or Vickie Jo Ryder at 228-6017 to sign up.



**594** Airmen's lives were saved by the Airmen Against Drunk Driving Program since Dec. 31, 2005. Those interested in volunteering can call 228-2247.  
Call AADD at  
**850-2233**

### Terrorism history

On August 4, 1975, members of the Japanese Red Army seized the consular sections of the American and Swedish embassies, taking 52 hostages. The hostages subsequently were released after five JRA members were set free in Japan.





## Aircraft, Page 4



Photo by Shelly A. McGuire



Photo illustration by Shelly A. McGuire

(Above) Airmen from the 55th Electronic Combat Group at Davis-Monthan look on as the new EC-130H approaches. The 55th ECG welcomed its first Block 35 EC-130H aircraft July 27.

(Left) The new Block 35 EC-130H aircraft is ferried in during a welcoming formation July 27. Within the next five years, every EC-130H will have the Block 35 advanced technology installed, enhancing the Compass Call Mission.



Photo by Shelly A. McGuire

periority, but to now have cyberspace superiority."

Lt. Col. Russ R. Owen, 43rd Electronic Combat Squadron assistant director of operations said, "We are now faced with adversaries and potential adversaries that use the latest communication technologies. Block 35 allows us the flexibility and capability to counter the current and emerging target systems."

"The counter-radar capability provides us a new realm of possibilities, as this is a new mission for us. The modernization of Compass Call, as delivered in Block 35, is easier to support logistically and incorporates more elements of the cutting-edge computer technology that is now available," he said.

The Compass Call mission is to in-

*Col. Donald J. Bacon, 55th Electronic Combat Group commander speaks to Airmen about the new EC-130H aircraft during a formation at the Whiskey Ramp here July 27. "We now have the expanded capability to hit more 21st century targets," he said about the capabilities of the aircraft.*

tegrate into tactical air operations at any level. The versatile and flexible nature of the aircraft and its crew was already effective in enabling the power of electronic combat to be brought to bear in virtually any combat situation and now the Block 35 allows for even greater capabilities.

"The upgrade brings increased radio connectivity and increased situation awareness," said Maj. Benjamin J. Tabor, 43rd ECS Block 35 mission crew commander. "The aircraft missions systems operate more efficiently than the Block 20/30 versions and the new capabilities allow us to more effectively deny, degrade and disrupt enemy command and control networks in support of military objectives," he said.

Within the next five years, every EC-130H will have the Block 35 advanced technology installed, allowing Compass Call to continue saving lives.

"With Block 35, the words 'Compass Call' and 'Electronic Attack' will remain synonymous for many years to come," Col. Bacon said.

## Overseas quarterly assignment listing available for Air Force personnel

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** – The Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing for overseas requirements for the April through June 2007 cycle is now available.

Airmen need to work through their military personnel flights to update their preferences by Aug. 17.

Deployed personnel must work with their PERSCO representative to update assignment preferences. Airmen will be notified of their selection by Sept. 15.

EQUAL advertises upcoming assignment requirements, by Air Force Specialty Code and rank. Members are instructed to review, prioritize and update their

assignment preferences based on the EQUAL list.

Airmen can view the list on the Assignment Management System on the Air Force Personnel Center's secure Web site or at the local MPF.

**(Editor's note:** Information provided by the Air Force Personnel Center.)

# Force shaping creates reserve opportunities for Airmen

**By Tech. Sgt. Christopher Perham**

*710th Combat Operations Squadron*

While Air Force Reservists have traditionally been viewed as “weekend warriors,” the 710th Combat Operations Squadron at Langley Air Force Base, Va., is challenging that antiquated notion.

“This is not your grandfather’s Air Force Reserve anymore,” said Col. Jeffrey Mineo, 710th Combat Operations Squadron commander. “Force shaping has opened the doors to Airmen looking to continue their careers in a military capacity.”

The 710th COS operates alongside the Air Force’s Combined Air Operations Center Experimental, called CAOC-X, which is an integral component of the Air Force Command and Control Intelligence, Reconnaissance and Surveillance Center (AFC2ISRC).

Although the 710th COS is still considered a new startup unit, its members bring invaluable skills and training to the fight. Most of the squadron is comprised of Airmen with multi-service and multi-platform backgrounds, bringing experience from the Combat Air Forces, Mobility Air Forces, and Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance communities.

The 710th COS employs more than 125 Airmen in more than 40 Air Force Specialty Codes in operations, plans, communication and intelligence. Now at 75 percent capacity, the 710th COS can

offer a place where the best-of-the best can serve and the squadron is looking for highly competent and motivated Airmen in multiple specialties to fill critical positions.

Force shaping creates a tremendous opportunity for the Air Force Reserves due to an increase in highly qualified personnel Air Force wide who have a desire to continue serving their country after being released from active duty.

As a worldwide-deployable Air and Space Operations Center augmentation unit, the 710th COS has adopted the motto “Every Theater Our Stage.” The world of technology is exploding exponentially and the AOC needs cutting-edge equipment to stay ahead of the competition. The Combined Air Operations Center Experimental provides that infrastructure with a ballroom-sized operational floor complete with data link and battle management software suites.

Colonel Mineo predicts that “as the unit forges on into the 21st century, transforming combat operations into a technologically superior warfighting machine will become this unit’s most critical task. I know that the men and women of this unit will rise to the challenge we face in this new era of warfare. Right now is an exciting time to be a part of the 710th. We, as the pioneers of this process, are laying the groundwork for future generation warfighters.”

In a recent letter to Airmen, the Secretary of the Air Force, Michael W. Wynne, recognized the

importance of the total force concept and the 710th COS has made great strides to integrate itself with its active-duty counterparts in the ever-expanding world of combat operations. “From fitness to technical training, we are an extension of the active-duty force and we operate no differently,” said Colonel Mineo.

While the reserve mission provides its members with the flexibility to work its weekend drills while maintaining a full-time civilian job, it offers Airmen the opportunity to participate in myriad exercises and contingencies worldwide.

The mission of the 710th is to maintain worldwide readiness to deploy well-trained and certified Air and Space Operations Center warfighters, conduct theater-level air operations in support of the Combined/Joint Forces Air Component Commander during exercises, contingencies and time of war and provide subject matter expertise in developmental, operational and field testing of cutting-edge AOC weapon system applications.

To become a member of the 710th COS, separating Airmen can contact the in-service recruiter regarding potential employment.

The 710th is currently focused on filling billets in the following career fields: 1C5, 2E2, 11F, 12B, 13B, 9S100, 1C4 and 14N. Select individuals from all services can be cross trained.

For more information, contact Lt. Col. Douglas Hall, 710th COS or Lt. Col. Ronald Graves, 710th COS director of operations at 757-225-1955.



# AFSOC annual award winners

*The 563rd Rescue Group had the following Air Force Special Operations Command annual award winners:*

**Airman Information**

**Manager**  
Senior Airman  
Tara Henson

**Airman Personnel**

**Manager**  
Senior Airman

Alexandria Martinez

**Senior NCO**  
**Aircrew Life Support**  
Master Sgt. Alonzo Coleman

**Senior NCO**  
**Logistics Readiness**  
Master Sgt. Wayne Harker

**Senior NCO**  
**Intel**  
Master Sgt. Mike Smith

## Crime & Punishment

Davis-Monthan

discharges and Articles 15 from July 17 to 28

◆ An airman assigned to the 355th Services Squadron received a reduction to airman basic, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand for driving under the influence. This is a violation of Article 111 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

◆ An airman first class assigned to the 355th Security Forces Squadron received a suspended reduction to the grade of airman and 30 days extra duty for dereliction of duty. This is a violation of Article 92 of the UCMJ.

◆ An airman first class assigned to the 355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron received a reduction to the grade of airman basic, 45 days extra duty and a reprimand for failing to obey a lawful general regulation. This is a violation of Article 92 of the UCMJ.

◆ An airman basic from 25th Operational Weather Squadron was discharged with a General discharge supported by one Article 15 and two Letters of Reprimand.



Airman 1st Class Jesse Shipps

### 3,000 hours, counting

*Lt. Col. Curtis Culver, 355th Training Squadron, Central Instructor School director at Davis-Monthan receives his 3,000 hour flying patch from Lt. Col. Scott Stark, 357th Fighter Squadron, commander for his time spent flying the A-10 over the course of 1,536 sorties. Colonel Stark has flown the A-10 for 16 years and has had the opportunity to fly it at Osan Air Base, Korea, Spangdahlem Air Force Base, Germany, D-M, Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska and again here.*





*Report      Locate      Recover      Reintegrate      Coordinate*

# Personnel Recovery Exercise 06



Photo by Senior Airman Christina Ponte

An HH-60 Pavement Hawk approaches to drop off pararescuemen, as a simulated injured survivor tries to escape at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., during the mass casualty phase of exercise Angel Thunder July 27. The mass casualty phase involved two CH-47 Chinooks simulating a crash.



Photo by Senior Airman Christina Ponte

## Desert Lightning Warriors participate in Angel Thunder

Airmen from Davis-Monthan had the opportunity to participate in the combat search and rescue exercise Angel Thunder July 24 through 28.

The exercise included scenarios such as a mass casualty phase, which involved the simulation of two CH-47 Chinook helicopters crashing. Once on the ground, pararescuemen triaged and relocated survivors.

This part of exercise Angel Thunder involved the 48th, 58th, 66th, 79th and 305th Rescue Squadrons as well as air support from the 563rd Operation Support Squadron and the 358th Fighter Squadron.

The overall mission objective was to provide recovery training for the full spectrum of Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard and active-duty combat rescue forces.

Master Sgt. George Jackson, HC-130 loadmaster from the 79th Rescue Squadron, directs Senior Airman William Strouse and 1st Lt. Jesse Fleener, pararescuemen from the 48th Rescue Squadron, from an HC-130 after a dirt landing at a training area near Davis-Monthan July 25. The pararescuemen performed "rapids," an on/off loading of All Terrain Vehicles from the HC-130 as part of exercise Angel Thunder.



*Execute    Rescue    Support    Train    Plan    Perfect*

# Angel Thunder ‘rescues’ Airmen



Photo by Senior Airman Christina Ponte

Pararescuemen from the 58th Rescue Squadron fast rope out of a HH-60 Pavehawk to reach a simulated crash site July 27 as part of the mass casualty phase of exercise Angel Thunder.



Photo by Senior Airman Christina Ponte

An aerial gunner from the 305th Rescue Squadron scans the area for threats as they transport a simulated survivor to the casualty collection point, at Fort Huachuca, during the mass-casualty phase of exercise Angel Thunder.



Photo by Senior Airman Christina Ponte

(Above) 2nd Lt. Daniel Goff, 58th Rescue Squadron from Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., uses a PRC-117 Satcom radio to communicate with Snowbird Operations at Ruby Fuzzy, a local training area near Davis-Monthan, as part of a recovery scenario during exercise Angel Thunder July 26. (Right) Pararescuemen from both the 48th Rescue Squadron here and the 58th RQS, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., prepare to transport a simulated patient in an HH-60 Pave hawk during Angel Thunder, which took place in the Huachuca Mountains July 26.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Veronica Pierce















# COMACC Sight Picture



20 July 2006

## Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century (AFSO-21)

I know what you're thinking... "Here it comes again... a new fad." And I've been in the Air Force long enough to have seen my share too. Lean, Six Sigma, Action Workout, Re-engineering, and Quality Air Force... we just never seemed to get them right across the Air Force... either we improved in a scatter-shot pattern at the local level, or descended into a full-time program of education with no output, or couldn't get the policy level of the Air Force interested in kicking over the hurdles that really were holding up progress. But each time, within each effort there were seeds of success: money saved, process time saved, quality improved... but we never got those seeds to sprout so we could harvest across our Air Force. AFSO21 is an approach to finally do it right.... Not a bunch of training, not a bunch of AFSO21 offices to stand up and drain manpower from an already stressed force.

The point of all this is that it is time for us to do some hard reviewing of our organizations and the processes within them. Soon we are going to be about 40,000 full-time equivalents smaller across the active, guard, reserve, and civilian force. That means we have to stop doing things that don't really add value to our force anymore... even if we do them very well... and we need to start looking at all of our processes to understand where the value-added steps are, and where is the waste and delay that can be carved out. Last December I asked everyone for some suggestions on where we start... I got 428 ideas... 122 on improvements and 304 that challenged the rules that impeded smart operations. The tenet is this: If today we started doing whatever it is we are doing... would we do it at all, and if so, would we do it the same way? If we started with a clean sheet of paper, what is the better, faster, cheaper way to do what needs to be done? So you have to start with your process and that really has to start with your customer... who is demanding your product or service and why are you producing it in the first place.... Once you get past that, then you take whatever it is that you make, improve, provide, and map out how do you actually do that from the moment you start until you finish?

To look at it another way, I spend a lot of time talking to many of you when I visit your units. Most of the time I shake your hand and ask you, "How are you doing?" I haven't had anyone yet answer anything but an enthusiastic, "Great"! What would you do if I followed that up with one more question, "How do you know?" I'd be impressed if you said, "Well, here is what I am tasked to do, here is who I do it for, and here is how I know how fast I do it, how good the quality is, and how costly it is.... and I watch these metrics to compare how well I am doing against how well I should be doing... and they tell me I'm doing great!"



Photo by Airman Alesia Goosic

## Checking it!

Senior Airman Mark Brown, 355th Security Forces Squadron, checks the identification of passengers driving into the Craycroft gate at Davis-Monthan Tuesday. People entering the installation must present proper identification, proof of insurance and all vehicle paperwork when security personnel request it. For more information or assistance, call the base visitor's center at 228-4886.



# Sgt. Noah Tall



Answers all your  
little Air Force  
questions:

**Force Shaping**

Dear Sgt. Noah Tall,

I was wondering if you knew anything about Force Shaping and if you could clarify what is going on.

Signed,  
*Airman Scared*

**Airman Scared,**

Thank you for asking a relevant question. The Air Force is looking to reduce its strength to 334,200 by the end of fiscal year 2007. By the end of fiscal year 2011, the target number after reduction is 316,500.

The details on how the Air Force is going to achieve this has not yet been determined. All career fields are actively working on how they will restructure to meet the challenges ahead. The goal is to develop a balanced force and for some jobs, that may mean an increase in manning for stressed career fields.

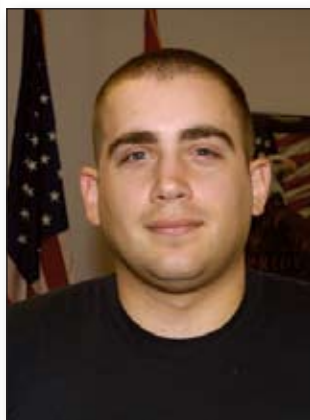
Some enlisted reductions will occur, but because the enlisted force is larger, the percentage is far less than that of the officer corps. A Force Shaping Board, scheduled to meet next April, is intended to offer Voluntary Separation Pay for officers who are between 6 and 12 years of service. The primary goal is to offer incentives to get the maximum number of voluntary separations possible. For NCOs, the Air Force currently uses the NCO Retraining Program and Career Job Reservation program to ensure the right skills mix for the enlisted force.

For more information, see [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/retsep/forceshaping/shape.htm](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/retsep/forceshaping/shape.htm).

*Sgt. Noah Tall*

## Final Answer

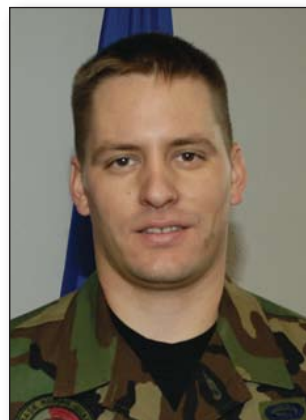
What do you like most about Arizona?



**Airman 1st Class  
Brent Callari**

25th Operational Weather  
Squadron

*"Puddling"*



**Staff Sgt.  
Davis Kurz**

355th Maintenance  
Operations Squadron

*"I met my wife here."*



**Senior Airman  
Eric Nelson**

355th Equipment  
Maintenance Squadron

*"Salt River Tubing."*



**Cadet  
Nathaniel Beene**

Reserve Officer  
Training Corps

*"The dry heat."*

## Photo Caption Contest

### Last week's photo



*"Sgt. Smitty is now demonstrating the proper parade rest position for all Air Force poll climbers."*

— Stephen Horan, 355th Dental Squadron

### This week's photo



Courtesy photo

### Got an idea or response?

To submit a caption for the Photo Caption Contest, ask Sgt. Noah Tall a question or give ideas, send an e-mail to [desert.airman@dm.af.mil](mailto:desert.airman@dm.af.mil) by noon Tuesday.



## AMARC Shipping helps U.S. save one-half billion dollars

By Rob Raine  
AMARC Public Affairs

A forward deployed operator reveals the need for a priority part. Unable to draw it from the supply system, a request goes via the weapon system program office to AMARC where a team reclaims the part from the desert. Yet without the efforts of the nine members of AMARC's shipping team, the part would move no further.

"People sometimes confuse us with the Traffic Management Office (TMO)," said Lynne Avant, AMARC packing, shipping and munitions supervisor. "TMO provides shipping for military customers. Our shipping office supports *all* of the other organizations, private and government agencies, foreign militaries, industrial clients, and museum aircraft." Support that includes NASA (story below).

AMARC's shipping office specializes in oversized parts, making it one of the few places in the U.S. with the expertise needed to ship oversized parts worldwide. The shipping team has moved items ranging in size from the 60-foot front-section of a C-130 to tiny little nuts and bolts. They've shipped whole aircraft for use as air-to-ground gunnery targets in Fallon, Nev., and in preparation for regeneration and return to service, the Marine Corps CH-53E "Super Stallions."

"We shipped F-16s under the foreign military sales program," Ms. Avant said. "That *Falcon-Up* program



Members of the AMARC shipping team roll a Navy CH-53 Super Stallion into an Air Force C-5 Galaxy for delivery to the Marines.

involved nearly 100 F-16 fighters worth millions of dollars. It was a really big project!"

Because of their expertise in shipping oversized items globally using both military and commercial sea, air and land transport systems, Ms. Avant routinely fields calls from all over the world.

"People ask for information about how to ship oversized items," Ms. Avant said. "Even if their shipment has nothing to do with AMARC, we provide technical advice."

Since an urgent need can arise at any time, day or night, the shipping office supports requirements

affecting mission capability (MICAP) "24-7," according to Ms. Avant. Her team frequently delivers parts directly to the cargo-carrier terminal at the international airport if a shipment item has missed the normal pick-up time.

"We're not restricted by carrier "cut-off" times for pick-up/delivery," said Ms. Avant.

All items are shipped based on the priority need of the customer. The shipping team can process items and head them toward a customer in less than a day, but Ms. Avant notes taking care of the customer is a whole-team effort.

"We depend on the reclamation, NDI, and Egress teams, the A-10 wing shop – every shop and team at AMARC – to get our job done," she said.

In all, her nine-member team has shipped nearly 19,000 parts saving the government just under one-half billion dollars since the beginning of fiscal year 2006.

## Renewing the Force . . . all the way to space!

By Rob Raine  
AMARC Public Affairs

The aircraft bristles with sensors and glides along well above 60,000 feet, flown by a space-suited pilot and sensor operator. Does this sound like the latest super-secret spy plane operated by a clandestine government agency? Think again. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration, NASA, flies this WB-57 on missions ranging from atmospheric sampling of greenhouse gases and examination of the ozone layer, to video taping space shuttle lift-offs. These 43-year-old aircraft (there are two of them) also represent AMARC's link to the space program.

As everyone who operates older aircraft knows, obtaining parts can be a challenge. EB and WB-57s stored at AMARC support the space agency's need.

"If they were not able to obtain WB-57 parts at AMARC, it would be physically impossible to support their critical flying operations here," said Kevin Lesenski from the aircraft operations division at NASA's Johnson Space Center.



AMARC's Mario Gastelum removes a main landing gear actuator from a WB-57F stored at the Center in support of NASA's WAVE aircraft-based imaging system.

Among other sensors, NASA's two WB-57 can be armed with a telescopic camera that enables them to video tape space shuttle launches from the ground to space. Known by the acronym WAVE, short for WB-57 Ascent Video Experiment, the aircraft-based imaging system enables better observation of the Shuttle on days of heavier cloud cover and areas obscured from ground cameras by the launch exhaust plume.

Designed in the late 1940s by the British company, English Electric, U.S. Martin Aircraft built B-57s for the Air Force under license after aircraft won an early 1950s Air Force medium bomber competition. Redesigns resulted in the very long winged, tall tailed WB-57 weather reconnaissance aircraft which NASA received from the Air Force in the mid-1970s.



# AMARC Excellence speaks for itself

**Col Tony Panek,**  
*AMARC Commander*



Since the beginning of the fiscal year, the AMARC Team has reclaimed nearly half a billion dollars worth of aircraft parts and regenerated more than a dozen F-4 and P-3 aircraft. Without question the majority of our work supports the military services, many of the parts filling priority needs for operational aircraft.

Nonetheless, many of our customers are not service entities. These customers vary from state and local governments to business and industry, foreign allied militaries, and other agencies within our government, like NASA as the front page story describes.

All of these customers rely on AMARC to provide them with quality products and services, on time and on cost.

Quality and excellence speak for themselves. Because of the tremendous dedication of the Center's workforce, the word is out that AMARC is *the* place to go for parts, and particularly aircraft regeneration.

Anecdotal reports indicate that several foreign allies approached the government requesting aircraft at about the same time. Their request approved, one

of these allies elected to move their aircraft off-site for regeneration while two others chose AMARC to restore their aircraft to flight.

To date, so the story goes, the customer who went outside the fence is still awaiting delivery of their first aircraft. On the other hand, those customers who chose AMARC have received two to three aircraft each with more on the way. Small wonder choosy customers, choose AMARC.

Only excellence, dedication and commitment explain that performance. The aircraft don't tow themselves out of the desert. They don't shed parts into the appropriate bins when a priority call comes in. They don't build a crate around themselves, or arrange to have themselves shipped out, or conduct self-inspections or functional check flights. Nor do they dispose of themselves or arrange for their tooling to be safely and securely stored against a future need. The AMARC Team does all of those things and much, much more.

The word of that excellence gets around and customers, and potential customers, take notice. I am tremendously pleased and proud when I hear a report praising the efforts of the members of our AMARC team – and I get those reports often! Keep up the great work.

## AMARC History - Planes of Fame



*Two B-29 Superfortresses stored at AMARC after WWII carried the weight of history on their wings - Enola Gay (above) and Bockscar (below). On August 6, 1945, Enola Gay delivered the first atomic bomb used in combat against the Japanese city of Hiroshima. Three days later on August 9, 1945, Bockscar delivered the second atomic bomb against Nagasaki. In 1946, the two B-29s retired to the Boneyard for storage until they could be placed on display at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum and the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force respectively.*



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## Unsung Heroes – the AMARC/Ingenium IT Team

**By Rob Raine**  
AMARC Public Affairs

Twenty-two years ago Dan Aykroyd and Bill Murray made famous the line “Who ya gonna call?” in the film “Ghostbusters.” Today when the ghosts of computers past, present, and generally acrimonious rear their ugly heads – causing computer users to shake theirs – the AMARC team knows exactly whom to call – the Computer Help Desk.

Computer Gurus, Computer Wizards, Computer Wonders – all nicknames applied to the Ingenium/AMARC team who quickly respond to calls for everything related to the Center’s myriad computers and computer systems.

Forty years ago, AMARC, then called MASDC, maintained aircraft records on hand-written or typed cards. Today the computer has both simplified and made challenging record keeping. When everything works, the computer systems present a wonder of



Members of the AMARC Computer Help Desk Team, cornered from their busy schedules for one brief moment, are L-R John Brooks, Jen Staley, Bob Haggman, Janean Jones, Jeremy Sunshine (back row) Matt Hacking, Jaime Barnett, Ron Okpiz and Bruce Wiley. Not pictured: Jim Bohan, Galen Benson, Cammie Parker, Michael Verheyen, John Sackett.

cross-referencing efficiency. When they *crash* or *freeze-up* or simply refuse to respond, frantic calls go out to the computer help desk. Usually within minutes the calming *force* arrives on the scene and through undecipherable keystrokes, quickly rights the situation to the amazement of the watching user.

It’s no surprise that *this* remarkable team earns AMARC’s Unsung Heroes award.



AMARC’s Engine/Fuel System Preservation Team runs the engines of Navy Sea Control Squadron 33’s last S-3B Viking. The team first drains fuel from the aircraft, then refuels it with lightweight 1010 oil. Running the engines draws the oil through the aircraft’s fuel system, coating and preserving the plumbing up to and including the aircraft’s engines. Once the run is complete, the team drains and filters for re-use the 1010 and the aircraft is ready for the next stage in its preservation process.



Team members (L-R): Steven Fields, Damon Hammergren, Dale Pace, Alan Greenawalt, and Urbano Rada.





## Sharp Troops

Congratulations to the following Airmen who were selected as Chief Sharp Award Winners for July 2006:

**Staff Sgt. Jeremy Gaddy,**  
355th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron;

**Senior Airman Luis Lujan,**  
355th Civil Engineer Squadron;

**Airman 1st Class Charles Harris,**  
355th Component Maintenance Squadron;

**Senior Airman Rebecca Kovach,**  
355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron;

**Staff Sgt. Ernest Walden,**  
355th Logistics Readiness Squadron;

**Staff Sgt. Joe Champion,**  
355th Maintenance Group;

**Staff Sgt. Dianna Miller,**  
563rd Operations Support Squadron and

**Airman 1st Class Aaron Brentwood,**  
612th Combat Operations Squadron



## Sonoran Spotlight

*(Editor’s note: Sonoran Spotlight is a weekly feature of the **Desert Airman** profiling the Desert Lightning Community — officer, enlisted or civilian — of Davis-Monthan.)*

*This week’s Sonoran Spotlight is **Senior Airman Robert Brutto**, with the 355th Maintenance Group. Airman Brutto is an Air Force Repair Enhancement Program technician. According to Tech. Sgt. Jarrett M. May, 355th MXG AFREP assistant manager, he was nominated for the spotlight because “he is a perfect example of the whole Airman concept. I could not have asked for a better Airman to supervise.”*

*Airman Brutto provided the following insight:*

**Why did you join the Air Force:** I joined the Air Force because I always wanted to join the military, ever since I was young. My recruiter, who is also my cousin, convinced me that the Air Force was the way to go. If it was not for him, I would most likely be a Marine right now.

**What is the best advice you’ve received in the Air Force?** If you’re mad, you’re wrong!  
**Name someone who inspires you (or that you admire) and why:** My father, because he would always have a good answer for any question that I could ask.

**Your most memorable moment in the Air Force?** Receiving a General’s Coin for my presentation during the Daedalian Team visit.

**If you were the base commander, what would you change?** I would get some sun shades out on the west ramp for the phase guys.



Photo by Senior Airman Christina Ponte





# Drag racer wins 2006 hot rod title

By Airman 1st Class Melissa Taeu  
355th Wing Public Affairs

A man wears Air Force stripes on his helmet as he motorcycle drag races at the Southwestern International Raceway in Tucson. The pride and prestige represented in the stripes exemplifies the racer who wears them.

After participating in seven of eight races held at the SIR, Craig Allen Wood won the 2006 Motorcycle Track Championship title.

He is currently is the 2006 Motorcycle Summit Team Points leader for the SIR. This means that after a total of eight races, Wood finished 93 points ahead of second place to claim the championship title.

Another title won by Woods is the National Hot Rod Associations National Dragster Challenge Champion for 2006, in which he received the prestigious Wally Trophy. This trophy is "the most coveted prize in drag racing," according to the NHRA Web site.

Drag racing is defined by the NHRA as being, "an acceleration contest from a standing start between two vehicles over a measured distance at a specifically designed drag race facility."

A drag race requires the racer to have a quick reaction time at the starting line. To anticipate getting the "green light," could cause a false start resulting in disqualification.

There are a few tips Wood has for those racing in competitions.

To win any type of championship, intense focus is key and you have to tune everything out, Wood said. "You have to be confident in your equipment and everything you have done beforehand." Wood's bike, a Suzuki GSXR1100, has traveled one-quarter of a mile at a speed of 8.72 seconds at 152 miles per hour. For a one-shot race, it is imperative that every detail is checked thoroughly. To do this, hours of preparation are required.



Photo by Jim Kelso

Motorcycle drag racer Craig Allen Wood, rides his Suzuki GSXR1100 during a race at Southwestern International Raceway in Tucson. After participating in seven of eight races held at the SIR, Wood won the 2006 Motorcycle Track Championship title. He soared 93 points ahead of second place to claim the championship.

"Typically two to three days before a race, I'll spend hours in the evening going over the bike, getting it ready and doing all the maintenance," Wood said.

He dedicates a great deal of time and effort to support his hobby. He has been actively engaged in the sport for three years. His love for it, however, began while stationed at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. in 1990.

"I'm a very competitive person, I love the competitive side of it," he said. "But I also like the mechanical aspect of it, the attention to detail— just all of it."

Wood's attention to detail and precatious nature is why he has been racing for 16 years, injury-free.

"It is a common misconception that everybody thinks drag-racing is dangerous," Wood said.

"When it's in a controlled environment, drag-racing is safer than riding on the streets ... in my opinion."

Wood is a member of the NHRA, which requires all potential racers to pass a physical examination to determine if racers are fit to race.

The vehicle must also pass a series of tests and inspections to be deemed raceway eligible. Safety is always the top priority when racing.

Although safety concerns inhibit some from trying the sport, the interest in motorcycle drag racing continues to heighten. Wood has a few suggestions for those who would like to start racing.

"Anyone can compete as long as all of the basic requirements are met and the fees are paid," he said.

"It is also important to be a good street rider before becoming a racer. Start small and be comfortable on any motorcycle you own, get in touch with someone who already does it and find someone who can mentor you and give you all the inside secrets in becoming a serious racer," Wood said.

For information on the importance of motorcycle safety, visit [www.msf-usa.org](http://www.msf-usa.org).



Photo by Airman 1st Class Jesse Shipp

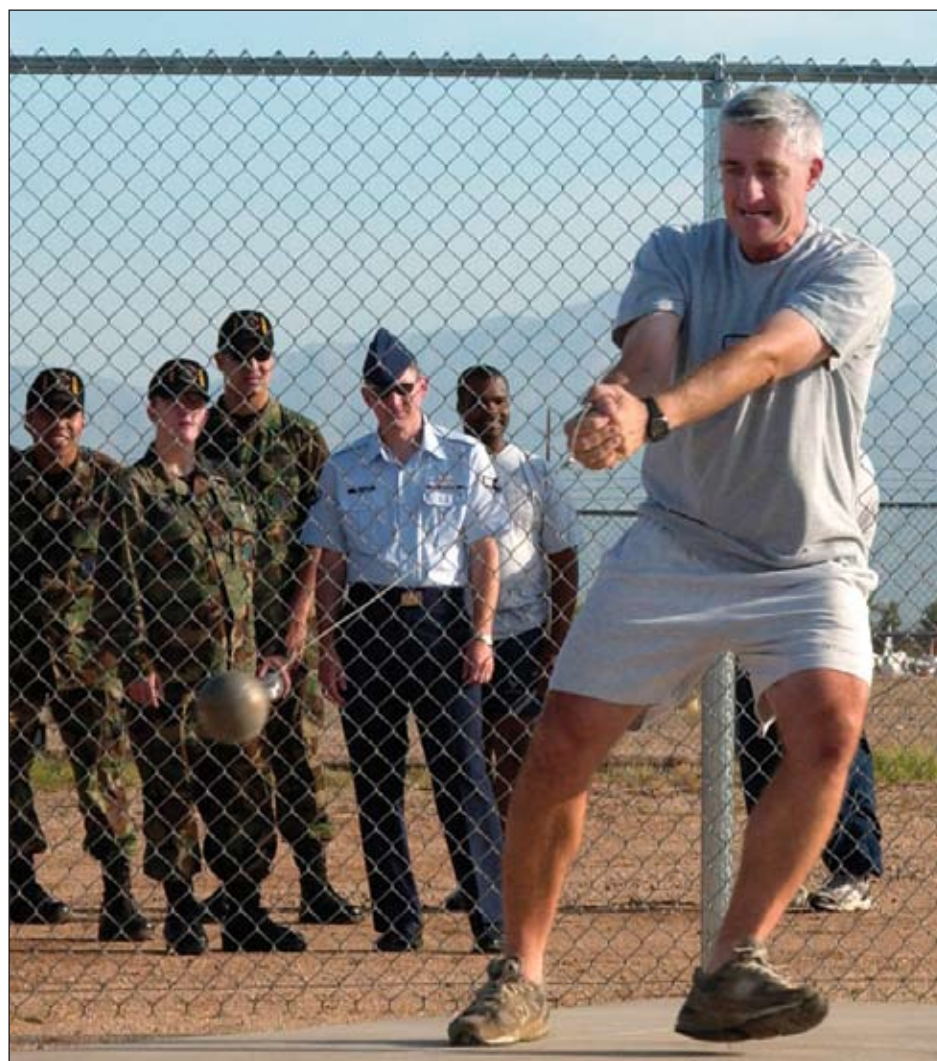
Motorcycle drag racer Craig Allen Wood, gets his Suzuki GSXR1100 ready for a test run here Tuesday.



# Go Boys!

## 355th MSG commander tries hammer throw

**Right:** The 355th Mission Support Group Commander, Hal Hoxie, participates in a hammer-throwing competition here June 26. **Middle:** Former Olympic hammer thrower, James Parker, demonstrates his techniques to Airmen. Parker competed in the 2004 Olympics and won the 2006 USA Outdoor runner-up, was a three-time USA Outdoor Champion, a 2003 Pan Am silver medalist and a nine-time National Collegiate Athletic Association All-American. **Left:** Scott Cooper releases his hammer during a competition here, taking first place.



Photos by Airman Alesia Goosic





## Chapel Information

*Services offered by D-M chapels are listed below. For more information on Jewish or Muslim services, Sunday School programs, Vacation Bible School, Bible studies, youth groups, and ministries, call 228-5411.*

### Worship schedule

#### Catholic

◆ Saturday Mass 5 p.m. at the Desert Dove Chapel.

◆ Sunday Mass 9:45 a.m. at the Desert Dove Chapel.

◆ Catholic Religious Education classes are held Sunday mornings from 8:15 to 9:30 a.m. in the Desert Dove and Hope Chapels. Registration is on-going and classes are held every Sunday that is not a holiday weekend.

#### Protestant

◆ Traditional Service is Sunday at 8 a.m. at the Hope Chapel.

◆ Desert Lightning Fellowship (Contemporary Service) is Sunday at 9:45 a.m. at the Desert Dove Chapel.

◆ Inspirational Gospel Service is Sunday at 11:30 a.m. at the Hope Chapel.

*Children's church will be held for smaller children during each worship service.*

#### Dorm Worship Service

◆ CBNR (Church But Not Really) is a GenX worship service that meets in the Ground Floor dayroom (Dorm 4102), Saturdays at 6:30 p.m.

### Christian Women's Luncheon

The Tucson Christian Women's Connection is sponsoring a luncheon Aug. 16 at the Radisson Suites Tucson from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Inspirational speaker, Sally Renfro, will explain "How to Recognize Hazardous Situations in Life" The lunch menu is soup du jour, grilled chicken caesar salad, assorted breads, desert and beverages. The cost is \$17 and is all inclusive. On-site childcare is available with preregistration and reservation.

For more information, call 762-8730 or e-mail name and phone number to [TucsonCWC@yahoo.com](mailto:TucsonCWC@yahoo.com).

### "Spiritual Tune-Up"

The Protestant Men of the Chapel are sponsoring a "Spiritual Tune-Up" Aug. 26 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

Everyone is invited to this time of prayer, worship and reflection.

Child care and lunch will be provided.

St. Paul's United Methodist Church is located at 8051 East Broadway.

For reservations, call the chapel by Aug. 23 to reserve your place.

## Happenings

### School supply donation drive

The 25th Operational Weather Squadron is sponsoring a school supply donation drive Aug. 15 at 8 a.m. for children of Southside Community School. The fundraiser is to gather school supplies for underprivileged children. Items needed are pens, pencils, construction paper, lined paper, dry erase markers, two-pocket fold-

ers, notebooks, crayons, colored pencils, markers, school glue, glue sticks, scissors, tissues and paper towels. Contributions can be dropped off at the 25th OWS until Aug. 14. Items will be distributed to the children on the first day of school, Aug. 15. For more information, call 228-6673 or 228-6674.

### Parent Advisory Board meeting

The next Parent Advisory Board meeting is Wednesday at 3 p.m. at the Finley Child Development Center Activity Room. The guest speaker is Peter Delillo, fire prevention inspector and child passenger seat technician. He will share important and useful information with parents.

All parents from both the D-M CDC and Finley CDC are encouraged to attend. Each CDC has a parent representative available for any questions, comments or concerns. For the D-M CDC, call Deandra Flowers at 228-5627 and for the Finley CDC, call Olivia Bloom at 228-5930 or Cynthia Hamman at 434-3725. E-mails can be sent to [dmafb.cdcpab@dm.af.mil](mailto:dmafb.cdcpab@dm.af.mil).

Members of the PAB are involved in events and activities that help enhance the well-being of their children and by creating a positive relationship between the parents, providers, and CDC staff.

## Education Services

*For more information, call 228-4249 or 228-3813.*

### Troy University seminar

Troy University will conduct an information seminar on their new Masters in International Relations Aug. 17 at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. in Building 3200. Call Base Training and Education Services for the exact room the briefing will be held in. The purpose of this meeting is to see if personnel are interested in running the program at Davis-Monthan. A professor from Troy University, Washington State campus will brief everyone on the program and the different areas of specialization. Additionally, he will discuss the different agencies employing personnel with this degree.

### Park University

Park University will be offering Spanish 103, Elementary Spanish One online during the Fall term. This term begins on Aug. 21.

For more information, call 748-8266 or stop by the Park University office in Building 3200, Suite 240.

### ACT

The next ACT will be administered Aug. 18 at 8 a.m. in Building 3200, Room 265. A minimum of five students must sign up to take the test or it will be cancelled.

### Commissioning briefing

The next Commissioning Briefing is scheduled for Aug. 18 at 10 a.m. in Building 3200, Room 243. It will cover all programs.

### Pima Community College

Fall registration is currently in progress. On-base classes begin Aug. 16 and off-base classes begin Aug. 23. Tuition is due by Aug. 11 for those students who have registered.

## Opportunities

### Job development coaches needed

The Giving Tree Outreach Program offers a job development program to help deserving people find and keep employment and needs volunteers for success.

Their goal is to place 47 homeless clients into employment for the upcoming year. Volunteer job coaches are critical to making this happen.

Responsibilities are varied and can include specializing in grooming and dressing clients for interviews, helping occasionally with transportation, computer skills, resume writing, child care and case management.

There is also a need for volunteers to just be good listeners and supportive cheerleaders to clients as they embark on their new careers.

For more information, call The Giving Tree Job Development Program representative Donna Pratt at 867-1400.

## Family Support Center

*For more information, call 228-5690.*

### Resume/Interview workshop

A resume workshop will be held today from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Family Support Center.

The class will cover basic information on how to prepare for a job.

An Interview workshop will be held today from noon to 2 p.m. in Building 3210.

Call the center to sign up.

## Movies

*Call 228-5694 for movie theatre recording.*

### Today

Superman Returns  
(PG-13)  
7 p.m.

### Saturday

Waist Deep (R)  
7 p.m.

### Sunday

Click (PG-13) 2 p.m.  
(All admission \$1.50)

*Regular admission is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children 11 years and younger.*



## Run Billy, run

*A child tries to lasso a billy goat during Horse Camp at the Pantano Riding Stables June 26 through 30. They learned how to care for, saddle, rope and ride different kinds of horses. They were taught how to properly saddle a horse and how to ride correctly. Other activities were learning leather crafts and going on scenic rides. Horse Camp is one activity the D-M Youth Center sponsor's for children to take part in over the summer. "The youth had a great time and look forward to doing it again," said Angie Wilkinson, 355th Services Squadron tween coordinator. "This is the best camp ever, one child exclaimed.*



Photo by Wendy Ozment